

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : Robert F. Kennedy  
Attorney General

DATE: June 10, 1963

FROM : Louis P. Coerdorfer, Assistant  
Attorney General, Tax DivisionSUBJECT: Daily Report of Racial Practices  
in Southern Businesses - June 10, 1963

1. Updated Statistics. On June 5th we reported on progress since May 22nd. This information which is shown by cities has been updated as of 2:30 p.m. today.

	<u>June 5th</u>	<u>June 10th</u>
Category 1*	90	92
Category 2	49	61
Category 3	34	37

Desegregated:

Lunch counters	10	29
Theatres	3	34
Hotels	4	14
Restaurants	2	13

Desegregation Imminent:

Lunch counters	3	4
Theatres	40	22
Hotels	0	3
Restaurants	0	5

Civic Machinery Active:

19	29
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\* Category 1 is those cities in which changes have been or can be made immediately; Category 2, those where change can be made with coordination, and Category 3, those where changes will be more difficult.

2. Summary of Developments since June 4th

United States Chamber of Commerce. On Sunday, June 9th Mr. Edwin P. Keilan, President of the United States Chamber of Commerce urged all businessmen to give leadership and support to prompt and peaceful racial integration.

The National Restaurant Association. On June 7, the President, in a letter to all members, called upon all restaurant operators in the North and South to support the Administration's desegregation program.

Athens, Georgia. Liggett, Woolworth and Grant's have agreed to serve negroes at lunch counters. There is to be no announcement.

Austin, Texas. Mr. Thomas Powers, counsel for the National Restaurant Association, reported on a meeting of restaurant owners in Austin, Texas area to be held on Friday, June 7th. On Sunday, June 2nd, 17 restaurant owners in Austin agreed to integrate and felt that before making an announcement all owners should be given an opportunity to join.

Birmingham, Alabama. Carling Dindler, Jr. advises that the Tutwiler Hotel in Birmingham was integrated without incident on June 5.

Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The Negro leadership approved a bi-racial committee, and the committee held its first meeting on June 4.

Charleston, South Carolina. The local managers of the Woolworth, Grant and Kress stores have met and decided they could desegregate lunch counters - but only with cooperation from the Mayor, hotels and department stores which has not been forthcoming thus far. We are following up.

Chattanooga, Tennessee. We have heard from several sources that desegregation plans are in the works in Chattanooga, to start going into effect soon. There have been mild disturbances in Chattanooga, but at the end of last week Negro leaders agreed with Mayor Ralph Kelley on a truce pending the results of a meeting scheduled for June 8.

Clarksville, Tennessee. The Mayor announced publicly on June 7 that complete integration was in operation as a result of a meeting of merchants, theatre owners, hotel and restaurant owners on May 30, 1963, when an agreement was reached to integrate across the board.

Daytona Beach, Florida. In face of a week of demonstrations Mayor J. Owen Dubank has reactivated a bi-racial committee, and said he hoped for total desegregation.

Hampton, Virginia. Word was received on June 6 that lunch counters were desegregated and that a bi-racial committee was formed and is functioning.

Jacksonville, Florida. A community relations commission, which meets once a month, is planning desegregation of movie theatres within a month.

Mr. Thomas Powers, counsel for the National Restaurant Association, reported on a meeting held June 5 by the restaurant owners in Jacksonville, Florida to attempt an agreement on integration.

Kingsport, Knoxville and Bristol, Tennessee. Mr. Everett Erlick reported desegregation of the Paramount theatres in these cities.

Knoxville, Tennessee. Information was received that theatres in Knoxville were desegregated June 6.

Nashville, Tennessee. Carling Dinkler of Atlanta reported on June 5 that the Nashville, Tennessee Hotel and Motel Association had issued a release calling upon their members to serve desirable patrons regardless of race.

Newport News, Virginia. Bi-racial Committee with wide representation has been formed and is optimistic that a plan for complete integration will be developed and placed into effect within a few days.

Richmond, Virginia. The Virginia Retail Merchants Association met in Richmond on June 8th to discuss the voluntary compliance program requested by the President.

Two of Virginia's largest department stores have reported significant progress. Miller and Rhoads with stores in four major Virginia cities have desegregated all facilities and are working on a program to employ negro sales people. Thalheimer Brothers with stores in North Carolina as well as Virginia have 400 negroes out of 3000 employees, several in selling and supervisory jobs; they have also desegregated their lunch counters and all public facilities.

Savannah, Georgia. Three theatres were temporarily desegregated in Savannah, Georgia.

Spartanburg, South Carolina. The Chamber of Commerce met on June 5 to adopt a resolution similar to that already adopted in Atlanta. Most restaurants and stores with eating facilities began a voluntary program of desegregation.

Winston-Salem, North Carolina. A bi-racial committee in Winston-Salem, North Carolina announced desegregation of larger hotels and restaurants on June 5th. The committee is seeking desegregation of theatres and has determined that local managers have no objection and anticipate no disturbance, but, they must clear with chain owners.

Florida State Circuit. Reported desegregation of its theatres in eight Florida cities within the past two weeks.

Liggett Drug Co. Mr. Ira Kepforth, President, reported the immediate up-grading of 26 negro workers in their drug stores in southern cities.

Hot Shoppes. Mr. Marriott reports that by June 11th, Hot Shoppes will have 100% desegregation in all hotels and restaurants. Hot Shoppes has hotels and restaurants in 16 states. Mr. Marriott also reported up-grading of 25 Negroes to non-menial positions.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Robert F. Kennedy  
Attorney General

DATE: June 7, 1963

FROM : Louis F. Oberdorfer, Assistant  
Attorney General, Tax Division

SUBJECT: Daily Report of Racial Practices  
in Southern Businesses - June 7, 1963

N.B. 1. The President of The National Restaurant Association, in a letter to all members, today called upon all restaurant operators in the North and South to support the Administration's desegregation program.

2. The Mayor of Clarksville, Tennessee, announced publicly that complete integration was in operation as a result of a meeting of merchants, theatre owners, hotel and restaurant owners on May 30, 1963, when an agreement was reached to integrate across the board.

3. A plan for complete integration of Statesville, North Carolina was announced on June 5th by the Mayor's Bi-racial Committee. Demonstrations were planned over employment practices. The announcement stressed that employers would accept applications for non-menial positions, especially sales people.

4. Daytona Beach, Florida. In face of a week of demonstrations, Mayor J. Owen Eubank has reactivated a bi-racial committee. This is scheduled to meet the night of June 7. The Mayor said he hoped for total desegregation.

5. Danville, Virginia. A moratorium was called on demonstrations pending action by a bi-racial committee.

6. The local managers of the Woolworth, Grant and Kress stores in Charleston, South Carolina have met and decided they could desegregate lunch counters - but only with cooperation from the Mayor, hotels and department stores which has not been forthcoming thus far. We are following up.

7. As we reported in our log for June 5, 1963, we had heard from several sources that desegregation plans are in the works in Chattanooga, to start going into effect perhaps as soon as the beginning of next week.

The UPI wire on June 6 reported that on June 5 there had been a mild disturbance when a number of Negroes sought to desegregate a downtown cafeteria. UPI reported one arrest, and three Negroes struck by a white man. We advised the Civil Rights Division of our concern that repetitions on a more general scale might damage the progress which we believe is being made in Chattanooga, and asked for their information and suggestions.

The Civil Rights Division did have information confirming a small attempt to desegregate the S. & W. Cafeteria. It reports most Negro leaders are opposed to demonstrations, and are satisfied with progress being made through negotiations. Civil Rights Division advises it will see what it can do to prevent demonstrations.

Civil Rights Division passed on to us a report by the FBI that a small, peaceful and unsuccessful attempt to desegregate a Chattanooga theatre occurred on June 4. The report indicates that this attempt is connected with CORE, and that other small attempts might follow. The report also confirms our information that negotiations for theatre desegregation are in progress. A committee under the Mayor is scheduled to meet June 14, 1963.

Today's press reports that Negro leaders have agreed with Mayor Ralph Kelley about a truce on attempts to desegregate restaurants pending a conference on June 8. This occurred at a bi-racial committee meeting called by Mayor Kelley in the wake of the disturbances reported herein.

8. Mr. Everett Erlick reported desegregation of the Paramount theatres in Kingsport, Knoxville and Bristol, Tennessee; and a meeting to discuss desegregation in Chattanooga to take place tomorrow.

9. Florida State Circuit reported desegregation of its theatres in eight Florida cities within the past two weeks.

10. Mr. Ira Kepforth, President of Liggett Drug Co. reported the immediate up-grading of 26 negro workers in their drug stores in southern cities.

11. Mr. Mariott, of Hot Shoppes, reports that by June 11th, Hot Shoppes will be 100% desegregated in all hotels and restaurants. Hot Shoppes has hotels and restaurants in 16 states. Mr. Mariott also reported upgrading of 25 Negroes to non-menial positions.

12. Updated Statistics. On June 5th we reported on progress since May 22nd. The data will be updated as of 5 P.M. each day and reported herein. There follows the progress by cities recorded as of 5 P.M. today: (compared with yesterday and June 5th.)

	<u>June 5th</u>	<u>June 6th</u>	<u>June 7th</u>
<u>Category 1*</u>	90	91	92
<u>Category 2</u>	49	63	61
<u>Category 3</u>	34	37	37
<u>Desegregated:</u>			
Lunch counters	10	12	27
Theatres	3	25	38
Hotels	4	9	14
Restaurants	2	4	6
<u>Desegregation Imminent:</u>			
Lunch counters	3	3	3
Theatres	40	24	25
<u>Civic Machinery Active:</u>	19	21	25

\* Category 1 is those cities in which changes have been or can be made immediately; Category 2, those where change can be made with coordination, and Category 3, those where changes will be more difficult.



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January 3, 1963

MEMORANDUM TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Re: Alabama Situation

I am informed that the Archbishop in Mobile has revised his position on parochial school desegregation.

This fall the public schools were desegregated by court order in Pensacola, Florida, which is within the Archdiocese. The Archbishop gave instructions for the parochial schools to be desegregated at the same time. He has now informed Mr. Jansen that he will do so in Alabama as well.

The Archbishop believes that we should attempt not to permit delay of the schools in Mobile beyond September, 1963. He believes that the schools in Mobile can successfully start desegregation then. With respect to the state generally, he believes that Mobile should be followed by Huntsville and Tuscaloosa. He told Jansen that the information coming to him through the Church was that any serious trouble in the state would be in Birmingham.

Darhe Marshall

cc: Deputy Attorney General